

--17. (New) A method of treating an inflammatory disorder in a subject, said method comprising:

administering to the subject an apoptosis inducing agent that exhibits its effect in aberrant cells involved with or related to immune diseases.

18. (New) A method of treating an immune disease in a subject, said method comprising:

administering to the subject an apoptosis inducing agent that exhibits its effect in aberrant cells involved with or related to immune diseases.

19. (New) A method of treating of an inflammatory disorder in a subject, said method comprising:

administering, to the subject, a gene delivery vehicle for use in the subject, said gene delivery vehicle comprising:

a gene capable of expressing an apoptosis inducing agent exhibiting its effect in aberrant cells involved with or related to immune diseases.

20. (New) A method of treating an immune disease in a subject, said method comprising:

administering, to the subject, a gene delivery vehicle comprising a gene capable of expressing an apoptosis inducing agent that exhibits effects in aberrant cells involved with or related to immune diseases.

21. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said gene delivery vehicle further comprises a suicide gene.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said suicide gene is inducible.

23. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has

a tropism for hematopoietic cells.

24. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has a tropism for fibroblast-like synoviocytes.

25. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has been provided with a targeting means.

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26. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said gene delivery vehicle comprises a recombinant adenovirus.

27. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the apoptosis inducing agent comprises apoptin or a functional fragment, derivative or equivalent thereof.

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28. (New) The method according to claim 17 wherein said apoptosis inducing agent is inducible.

29. (New) A method for determining the presence of cells likely to result in an immune disease, said method comprising:

providing suspect cells with apoptin-like activity,  
subjecting said suspect cells to stress, and  
determining whether said cells undergo apoptosis.

30. (New) A method for determining the presence of autoimmune diseases in a subject, said method comprising:

obtaining a sample from said individual, said sample comprising cells implicated in said autoimmune disease,  
providing said cells with apoptin-like activity, and  
determining apoptosis to determine if the subject has an autoimmune disease.

31. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has been provided with a targeting means for fibroblast-like synoviocytes.

32. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein said suspect cells are stressed by heat shock, osmotic shock, UV or chemical stress.

33. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has a tropism for hematopoietic cells.

34. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has a tropism for fibroblast-like synoviocytes.

35. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has been provided with a targeting means.

36. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein aid gene delivery vehicle comprises a recombinant adenovirus.--

Please cancel claims 1 through 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.